

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 EB-11 STR-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /134 W

----- 040096

R 211515Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1648

INFO USMISSION BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

USMISSION OECD PARIS

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 1216

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, ENRG, EGEN, SW

SUBJ: GATT DIRECTOR-GENERAL OLIVIER LONG'S VISIT TO STOCKHOLM

1. DIRECTOR-GENERAL OLIVIER LONG OF GATT VISITED STOCKHOLM DURING MARCH 18-20 AT THE INVITATION OF THE SWEDISH NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (NCICC). HE SPOKE BEFORE THE NCICC'S ANNUAL MEETING AND MET WITH SWEDISH GOVERNMENT LEADERS ON GATT MATTERS.

2. IN HIS SPEECH BEFORE NCICC, LONG DELIVERED A BALANCED AND USEFUL REPORT OF WHAT HAD TRANSPIRED SINCE THE TOKYO MEETING - - INCLUDING PREPARATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN COMPLETED FOR THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS; THE CHANGING ECONOMIC PICTURE CREATED BY ENERGY AND OTHER SHORTAGES AND THEIR SIGNIFICANCE TO THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS; MONETARY RESOURCES PROBLEM, INFLATION, CONCERNS OVER POTENTIAL ECONOMIC RECESSION AND UNEMPLOYMENT, ETC., -- AND CONCLUDES THAT
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THE NEGOTIATIONS ARE ON SCHEDULE, THAT THERE IS THE

NECESSARY POLITICAL COMMITMENT FOR NEGOTIATIONS, AND
THAT THE OPERATIONAL PHASE OF MULTILATERAL TRADE
NEGOTIATIONS WILL SOON BE IN FULL SWING.

3. SWEDISH PRESS COVERED LONG'S VISIT FAVORABLY.
HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID: NEITHER THE OIL CRISIS
NOR INFLATION WILL HAVE ANY PERMANENT NEGATIVE EFFECT
ON WORLD TRADE; TRADE LIBERALIZING FORCES ARE STRONGER
THAN PROTECTIONIST FORCES; ALTHOUGH BILATERAL
ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN OIL CONSUMING AND PRODUCING
COUNTRIES ARE BACKWARD STEPS, THIS PHASE WILL PASS;
AND HE IS SATISFIED WITH THE TOKYO ROUND PREPARATIONS.
ON U.S. TRADE REFORM BILL, LONG EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE
THAT CONGRESS WILL GRANT THE NECESSARY NEGOTIATING
POWERS. HE ALSO COMPLIMENTED SWEDEN AND OTHER
SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES FOR THEIR POSITIVE ROLE IN
GATT.

4. TEXT OF LONG'S SPEECH WILL BE SENT BY AIRGRAM.
OLSEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC COOPERATION, TRADE PROMOTION, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STOCKH01216
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740060-0514
From: STOCKHOLM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740324/aaaaawxq.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUL 2002 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <18 JUL 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GATT DIRECTOR-GENERAL OLIVIER LONG'S VISIT TO STOCKHOLM
TAGS: ETRD, ENRG, EGEN, SW, GATT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005